



# Tourette's & I

**Directed & co-written by JACK RH O' SULLIVAN**

**Co-written and produced by WILL SPIRES**

**MOVIE MAKING MEDIA**

**Produced by Sarah Leigh**

**INCLUSIVITY FILMS**

# TOURETTE'S & I

**BUDGET:** £7,000 **GENRE:** Social awareness drama

Written by Jack RH O' Sullivan, TOURETTE'S & I is based on Jack's own experience of having Tourette's. Told with authenticity and co-written by his Movie Making Media partner, Will Spires, TOURETTE'S & I follows a day in a life of Liam and his journey to interviewing for a job.

**LOGLINE:** *On the day of an important job interview, a young man with Tourette's Syndrome encounters discrimination and a lack of understanding from others.*

**SHOOTING LOCATION:** Islington, London

**SCHEDULED FOR:** Spring 2022

**WRITER-DIRECTOR:** Jack RH O'Sullivan

**CO-WRITER:** Will Spires

**PRODUCERS:** Will Spires, Movie Making Media; Sarah Leigh, Inclusivity Films

# Director's Statement

I wanted to write a story about my experience of having the condition Tourette's. I am passionate about cinema but I haven't seen anything that resembles my own story. It was important for me to write about it and to direct this piece as I only want a true representation on screen. This is also why we're authentically casting an actor who also has the condition. We have also invited other people, who have Tourette's, to appear in the closing credits with personal messages about their experiences. I want their words heard!

Visually, I want to represent the world as realistically as possible, showcasing the way that society views Tourette's and the battle for awareness. I also want to portray a story of friendship and to show that there is light at the end of the tunnel .

My Cinematographer and I are planning to shoot in the 2.20:1 aspect ratio using Anamorphic lens to tell the story and show the protagonist's world. When he tics - the focus breathing, distortion, bokeh - will be adjusted to show how he's feeling, and we will use a 25mm, 35mm and 50mm for the film. Extreme close ups will also be utilised for when he tics, and to showcase his emotional state. We'll use 25mm for reaction shots, showing his perspective of how others' react when he tics.

We are also using colour to showcase the characters and locations in his world. Bright costumes for characters that represent hope & friendship, dark clothing for characters who discriminate and neutral colours to showcase the medical and psychological side of Tourette's, which will be used to effect when he visits his Tourette's Consultant.

Alongside authentic casting, it is important to me that our crew reflects the Tourette's and disability community. We are offering work experience and positions out to people who identify as such, and Access riders will form part of everyone's contract. We are all about inclusivity, much like the film itself.

This movie is my passion project, I've wanted to make a Tourette's film for 12 years and now I'm happy to make one. My hope is that TOURETTE'S & I will be seen by a wide audience. I want those who have Tourette's to resonate with our film and hopefully see their own stories reflected on screen. I also want people who aren't aware of the condition(outside of the stereotypical portrayals) to gain some understanding and awareness. My hope is that our film will contribute to a change in the way that society views Tourette's.

**JACK RH O'SULLIVAN**

# Writer-Director Jack RH O'Sullivan

Jack has directed short films for the past five years but wanted to make a Tourette's based movie for years. Now his dream has become a reality. Jack was born with Tourette's, Autism and OCD and has since worked hard to find a career and work with his disabilities. Tourette's is not a very well known disability and after years of struggles and the award-winning success of his last film, he feels now is the right time to make it. He wants to cast an actor with Tourette's and make this film to gain awareness.





# Co-Writer-Producer Will Spires

Will has been a lover of storytelling since he was young and that passion has followed him into a career as a screenwriter. Being a recent university graduate, Will is keen to thrust himself into the world of movie making any way he can and since joining Movie Making Media in June 2020, he's been able to do just that. Will has worked on several projects in various roles from Writer to Cinematography and is honoured to help bring TOURETTE'S & I to the screen, a project so close to the director's heart and one that Will wants to ensure is done right.



# Co-Producer

# Sarah Leigh

Sarah Leigh is a working-class British storyteller & advocate. Passionate about inclusion and authenticity in film, Sarah recently founded Inclusivity Films, a company that works with disabled talent on and off the screen, and is developing a slate of narrative and documentary projects. Films in pre-production include ONE DAY, a short written by Sarah and developed with the Sundance Institute, and TOURETTE'S & I.

She also co-founded and runs iNCLUSIVE Talent, a talent agency that forefronts disabled and neurodivergent actors.

As an actor, Sarah most recently starred alongside Frank Harper & Joel Fry in the British hit SILENT NIGHT, directed by Will Thorne, and in the feature film HEART OF HOPE (Amazon Prime). She also starred in the award-winning environmental short film 2025: THE LONG HOT WINTER (narrated by Brian Eno).

Sarah is a campaigner & has worked alongside Mencap, the NHS, Newlife, Time's Up UK, and the BBC to raise awareness and contribute to social change. Other work includes National & International TV news journalism and working for the Obama administration.

She is excited to co-produce TOURETTE'S & I.

(Photo credit: Jennifer Evans)

# CONTACT

## **MOVIE MAKING MEDIA**

**Jack RH O'SULLIVAN**

[jackrh.osullivan@moviemakingmedia.co.uk](mailto:jackrh.osullivan@moviemakingmedia.co.uk)

**WILL SPIRES**

[will.spires@moviemakingmedia.co.uk](mailto:will.spires@moviemakingmedia.co.uk)

<https://moviemakingmedia.co.uk>

## **INCLUSIVITY FILMS**

**Sarah Leigh**

[sarah@inclusivityfilms.co.uk](mailto:sarah@inclusivityfilms.co.uk)

[www.inclusivityfilms.co.uk](http://www.inclusivityfilms.co.uk)